

**Show Committee Agenda
Grapevine, Texas
2011**

1. Welcome by chair
2. Committee guidelines
3. Meeting protocol
4. Member review and comments on agenda items
5. Nominations for committee chair (Saturday)

GENERAL SUBCOMMITTEE

The following recommendations will be discussed:

1. Add hunter in hand as a required halter class.
2. Develop an awards program to recognize the high score limited rider in each open class to encourage more participation at AQHA shows and competitions.
3. Revise rule 450 (i) allowing the sidesaddle to be considered legal equipment.

4 **INCENTIVE FUND RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (a) Revise Incentive fund to impose a cap on points to make them more valuable per point. Raise the percentage paid out to 15% for Stallion nominator, 15% for foal nominator, and 70% to owner of horse at time of earning points.
- (b) Revise Incentive fund and form a task force to study and implement horses coming off the track to be eligible.
- (c) Add new rule – Any registered American Quarter Horse that has been enrolled in the AQHA Racing Challenge, without regard to racing career, shall be eligible at any age to nominate into the Incentive Fund by paying the highest rate (\$2500), plus a stallion-fee surcharge if sire was not nominated. This would affect only the horse in question; it would not affect other foals by that sire.

5 **PERFORMANCE HALTER RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (a) Require that the Performance Register of Merit be earned in the division (Open, Amateur, Youth) to show in Performance Halter.
 - (b) For world show or year-end high-point for performance halter, a horse must show in performance class(es) other than showmanship at halter a minimum of 15 times (judges) or have earned 10 performance points during the qualifying period.
 - (c) Spayed mares may be allowed to show in performance halter.
 - (d) Allow horses actively competing in performance classes to enter performance halter before completion of register of merit.
 - (e) For international countries only, that two (2) points be earned in performance events prior to competing in performance halter instead of the current 10 points.
 - (f) Allow horses to show in performance halter that are registered with excessive white.
 - (g) Allow *any* horse entered and shown in a performance class to be eligible to show in the performance halter class at that show
 - (h) Allow 10 points to count for performance ROM to be eligible to show in performance halter.
6. Modify rule 448(i) – aged halter classes for stallions, mares and geldings to be a class for four and five year olds and a class for horses six and older.
7. Revise Rule 448(d) – to allow the use of lip chains in halter classes for youth and amateur.
(AQHA's Executive Committee waived Rule 109 (b) to allow this item on the agenda)

8 **AQHA POINT MODIFICATION RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (a) Add new rule – to allow 3-5 horses in a class, would make a one point class rather than ½ point for less than five horses. Three horses would be a minimum for one point. Adjust all upwards accordingly.
- (b) In classes of 1-4 entries, first place would receive one point.
- (c) Add new rule – cap number of show points a horse has in any particular class and have a specific division.
- (d) Add rule – An award program for American Quarter Horses to earn points while showing against all breeds.

- (e) Revise rule 415 (g) – 1 point for grand (minimum) ½ point for reserve (minimum) regardless of how many other age horses up to a total of five for open, amateur and youth divisions.
- 9. Allow the use of weighted tails.
(AQHA's Executive Committee waived Rule 109 (b) to allow this item on the agenda)
- 10. Review awards given to individuals who place in the Top 5 in the nation or allowing an exhibitor to purchase a bronze
- 11. Allow limited working cow horse to be added as a class and to World Shows.
- 12. In halter expand the high-point leaders list to include break down by ages
- 13. Develop classes for horses 12 yrs of age and older to promote longevity.
- 14. Discuss adding an awards and recognition program for the regional high-points in all classes.
- 15. Change rule 474B to allow western horsemanship in open division.
- 16. Change rule 475B to allow hunt seat equitation in open division.
- 17. Allow showmanship to become an individual scored event allowing exhibitors to show multiple horses.
- 18. Add showmanship to the open division as well as other classes where the exhibitor is being judged.
- 19. In barrel racing and poles, adopt the 3-D and 4-D format award points and placings.
- 20. Add walk/trot division for youth and amateur and consider adding a 10 & under walk/trot division for youth.
- 21. New rule – Allow one affiliate produced race-bred sale to conduct a halter special event that is eligible for halter points. All AQHA rules would apply, with one exception, which would be to allow the use of a chifney (ring) bit, commonly used with racing stock.

SHOW MANAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE

The following recommendations will be discussed:

1. PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO RULE 450

- To be effective immediately, rescind 450(m) as it appears in the 2011 Handbook and replace it with the following verbiage. This reverts back to allowing a maximum of two horses in junior, two horses in senior and three or four in an all-age class.

“Provided that a horse is only exhibited once per class, in individual open working events (reining, working cow horse, western riding, barrel racing, pole bending, cowboy mounted shooting, jumping, working hunter, dressage, trail, tie-down roping, dally team roping - heading, dally team roping - heeling, team penning, ranch sorting and cutting), an exhibitor may:

- (1) Exhibit up to two horses in a junior class;
- (2) Exhibit up to two horses in a senior class;
- (3) Exhibit up to three horses in an all-age class as long as two are junior and one is senior; or two are senior and one is junior; or
- (4) Exhibit up to four horses in an all-age class as long as two are junior and two are senior.”

- To be effective immediately, revise rule 450(n) in the 2011 Handbook to read as follows (revisions in bold):

In novice youth, youth, novice amateur, select amateur and amateur in individual working events, (reining, working cow horse, western riding, barrel racing, pole bending, cowboy mounted shooting, youth stakes race, jumping, working hunter, dressage, trail, breakaway roping, tie-down roping, dally team roping – heading, dally team roping – heeling, team penning, ranch sorting and cutting) an exhibitor may show up to ~~three~~ **two** horses regardless of sex (except youth, novice youth and novice amateur where stallions may not be exhibited).

- To be effective immediately, revise rule 450(o) in the 2011 Handbook to read as follows (revisions in bold):

A select exhibitor, in individual working events may show any combination **of two different horses** in select and amateur. ~~as long as a maximum of three different horses is exhibited and that horse is only shown one time by any exhibitor in that class.~~ For example, a select exhibitor in individual working events may exhibit ~~all three~~ **both** horses in ~~the~~ amateur, ~~all three~~ **both** horses in ~~the~~ select, ~~or two~~ **one** horses in select and one in amateur. ~~or one in select and two in amateur.~~ A horse may only be exhibited one time in a class in either select or amateur no matter the exhibitor.

(AQHA’s Executive Committee waived Rule 109 (b) to allow these items on the agenda)

2. Add new rule – On the entire show ground (including the warm-up area) horses may be ridden with equipment that is only permitted according to the AQHA rulebook. Senior horses may be ridden with junior equipment. Horses may be longed with snaffle bit and draw reins, or a halter. The long leader may use a long whip. All other equipment is prohibited. If horse is ridden or longed with prohibited equipment the horse and exhibitor will be disqualified from the entire show.
3. Delete rule 414 (c) - abolish all fines to show secretaries.
4. Change rule 433 (a) – to allow family members that live in the same house as show management to be eligible to show.
5. Add to rule 407(n) - A show is required to state the name of the judge(s) **for all classes** for the show in at least one issue of *The American Quarter Horse Journal* prior to the scheduled show date. It is also strongly urged to provide the name of the judge(s) **for all classes** on both the entry blank and catalog or premium list.

No judge should be allowed to judge a horse show unless his or her name appears in at least one issue of *The Journal* or on the show bill. It has become standard practice for a few show managements to hire judges to judge trail, western riding and reining without the exhibitors' knowledge of who the judges are until they get to the show.

6. **SHOW APPROVAL RULES – MILEAGE**
 - (a) Change rule 407 (e) – No show including special events will be approved if there already exists on the same day, within **300** miles shortest driving distance or **five hours** driving distance.
 - (b) Change rule 407 (i) – Require affiliate approval prior to AQHA approval of show deemed to be “new” due to change in location, date, format or because it was not held the year before
 - (c) In the event of a projected ‘super show’ the mileage restriction shall be at least 1,000 miles.
 - (d). Add new rule - No new shows will be approved if there already exists on the same day, within **600** miles shortest driving distance or **10 hours** driving distance.
7. Change rule 407 (k) - Holidays, ~~as such,~~ **with the exception of Memorial Day and Labor Day will not be reserved as priority days,** because holidays fall on different days from year to year.
8. Do not allow three/four judged shows

9. Change rule 433(c) Show Officials
(c) To compete in an AQHA-approved class, a horse must be entered in the class with show management ~~prior to the start of the class~~. The exhibitor is responsible for errors on entry blanks. A horse entered in the wrong class may be transferred to its correct class after the judging program has been printed.
10. Change rule 417 – add AQHA novice all-around award.
11. Change rule 407 (c) To obtain approval, an application for approval form, correctly and entirely completed, must be submitted and postmarked at least **120** days prior to the first date of the proposed show in order to be published in two issues of *The American Quarter Horse Journal*.
12. Staff to develop, publish and distribute guidelines regarding proper procedure for drug testing at shows.
13. Add new rule – All exhibitors are to remain in the arena in a multi-horse class until the final placings are announced under each judge. Anyone who exits the arena before final placings are announced will be disqualified.

WESTERN SUBCOMMITTEE

The following recommendations will be discussed:

1. New rule – Any horse can show in a bosal, one-handed, after they are 6-years-old.
2. Change rule 458(a) pole bending run must be completed within sixty (60) seconds to count as an entry.
3. Change rule 459(b) stakes race run must be completed within thirty (30) seconds to count as an entry.
4. Change rule 457(a) barrel racing run must be completed within sixty (60) seconds to count as an entry.
5. Add new class – Youth, Amateur and Open Flags.
6. Change rule 459(a) make stakes race available in open and amateur.
7. Modify rule 459(c) ~~The contestant is allowed a running start and may begin his run from either the left or right side of the first pole. Start by crossing the center line between the upright markers, turn around the second pole, cross over the center line again between the markers, then around the first pole and run back across the finish line.~~

459(c) There are two stakes in this event. The stakes shall be 80 feet (24.38 m) apart. The first stake shall be 101 feet (30.78 m) from the start/finish line if arena size permits. The pattern may be shortened depending upon arena size. However the two stakes must always be placed 80 feet (24.38 m) apart, regardless of the distance between the first stake and the start/finish line.

~~(d) The start and finish line is 20 feet (6 meters) wide and marked by two upright markers 10 feet (3 meters) on each side of the center line and short enough so as to not interfere with the timer if one is used. Short pylons or cones are recommended. The first and second poles marking the center line are each 40 feet (12 meters) from the start and finish line, making them a total of 80 feet (24 meters) apart.~~

(d) Exhibitor shall cross the start/finish line and run down the right side or left side of the poles to the second pole making either a right or left turn. Exhibitor shall not cross between the two poles before making the first turn. Exhibitor shall then run to the first pole and make a turn in the opposite direction. Exhibitors must then run back tot the second pole and repeat first turn then run straight back down either the left or right side of the poles (opposite side than when first crossing start line and running to second pole) and cross the start/finish line.

8. Change rule 473 (a). The showmanship class shall be ~~judged strictly on the exhibitor's ability to fit and show a horse at halter. The horse is merely a prop to demonstrate the ability and preparation of the exhibitor.~~ The ideal showmanship performance consists of a poised, confident, neatly attired exhibitor leading a well-groomed and conditioned horse that efficiently performs the requested pattern with promptness, smoothness and precision. The showmanship class is not another halter class and should not be judged as such.

(a) The showmanship class shall be designed to evaluate the exhibitor's ability to execute, in concert with their horse, a set of maneuvers prescribed by the judge with precision and smoothness while exhibiting poise and confidence, and maintaining a balanced, functional and fundamentally correct body position.
9. Add new rule concerning equestrians with disabilities 483 (i), develop walk, jog and lope trail horse class.
10. Add green to reining and speed events.
11. Add rule - Allow the use of "two rein" into AQHA classes as approved equipment for junior, senior, amateur and youth working cow horse classes for one calendar year on any age horse that has not previously been shown down the fence in bridle.
12. Allow novice amateur, novice youth and youth team penning and ranch sorting to show two handed with any bit.
13. Modify rule 465B(f), Western Pleasure, change to read "At the option of the judge, horses may be asked to lengthen their stride at the walk or lope, one or both ways of the ring. (Lengthened stride was suggested from the combined NSBA/AQAHA western pleasure meeting).
14. Review Ranch Horse Pleasure from 2010 Convention.

ENGLISH SUBCOMMITTEE

The following recommendations will be discussed:

1. Delete/modify rule 480 to lift the point limit from riders and horses that are earning points in dressage.
2. Recognize dressage in other countries.
3. Continue recognizing the highest percentage American Quarter Horse at USDF Regional Championships.
4. To allow dressage to become a world show event.
5. Develop partnerships with the United States Hunter Jumper Association and United States Eventing Association and develop plans to award points as in AQHA approved class.
6. **Progressive Working Hunter**
 - (a) Adjust criteria and time period for progressive working hunter.
 - (b) Change rule 462 (1) – Progressive Working Hunter – Horses become eligible for Progressive Working Hunter for a time period of that calendar year **and the immediate following calendar** year after entering any working hunter class other than the Green Working Hunter.
7. In pleasure driving remove the requirement for over check or check reins.
8. In hunt seat equitation – amateur and youth, lack of contact between the rider’s hand and bit will be “severely” penalized. Any slack in the reins is not acceptable in this class.
9. In hunt seat equitation, riders cannot be asked to work without stirrups on the rail for more than two laps of the arena at the trot, canter or hand gallop.
10. Allow rope mouthpieces for snaffles and Pelham bits as long as they meet the minimum requirement for diameter of the mouth piece of the respective bit.
11. Clarify the scoring and emphasis of scoring for both the equitation over fences and hunt seat equitation classes.
12. Encourage “hunter derby” classes as a non approved class at shows to develop interest and encourage growth in our over fences classes. Encourage “gambler choice” classes and “green” jumper classes as non approved classes at shows to encourage growth in AQHA jumper classes.
13. Eliminate the wearing of “shadbelly” coats in any class that is not designated as “derby” or “medal” class.

14. Eliminate the use of boots or bandages in all equitation over fences and hunt seat equitation classes unless horses are being shown outside as designated by the existing rule governing “inclement condition”.
15. Add wording to Rule 461.2 (e) – Working Hunter – Novice riders showing in Amateur or Youth Classes, Green and/or Progressive Horses entering into respective age classes, junior or senior hunter.
16. Consider revising or adding the purposes of classes green and/or Progressive Working Hunter, Working Hunter, Hunter Under Saddle, Equitation Over Fences, Equitation on the Flat, Pleasure Driving, Hunter Hack and Jumping. Currently there is not a designated purpose for these classes.
17. Lower fence heights in Working Hunter classes.
18. Add wording about the walk in Rule 447(b)(1) [Gaits]. Add the word “forward” in this paragraph. Recommended verbiage: “The horse must move straight, true and forward at the walk.”

WORLD SHOW SUBCOMMITTEE

The following recommendations will be discussed:

1. Review Amateur and Amateur Select World show points in reining.
2. Offer an award to the high score limited rider in each open class at the World Show in order to encourage more participation at AQHA shows and competitions.
3. Add world show finalist to horse record.
4. Add a class for cutting horses and riders – combination ages for the horse/rider team are 75 years (rider 65 years/horse 10 years) and call it select masters.
5. Review how trail and western riding are scored at the Youth World and do not have semi-finals.
6. Have shootout rounds when entries warrant it.
7. Add a regional option of qualifying for Open/Amateur and Select World Show.
8. Require that the horses competing in Performance Halter be exhibited in performance class at world show.
9. At the Select World Show - line up all halter classes under each judge's placing, same as it is done at the World Show.
10. Give every current AQHA member free admission to all World Show performances.
11. Create a task force to study and investigate our present qualifying system for the open world show and be able to nominate (buy in) a horse into the AQHA World.
12. Allow no more than 48 hours between preliminary and finals of all classes at all world shows.
13. Consider changing current procedures regarding refunds at World Show.
14. Consider proposed late entry fee payment schedule at World Shows.
15. Consider allowing an amateur's immediate family member to substitute for an amateur entry for World Show.
16. In working cow horse, add boxing as a world show event for open, amateur, select and youth.
17. In all World Championship shows individually worked classes - the finals will not be announced until the winning run is reviewed by the Senior Director of Judges.

18. In all classes where horses are trotted in for soundness, a veterinarian should also observe the horses for soundness.
19. In youth and amateur equitation over fences, allow for an “option” fence to be put on the course to allow the riders to better show their skills and ability.
20. In hunter hack class, if the jumps are not set on a line but as two single jumps, allow the halt to be designated between the jumps as an available option for the judges and course designer.
21. In all jumper classes, the designated time allowed in the preliminary round cannot be adjusted after the first rider has completed the course.
22. In amateur and youth equitation, horsemanship or showmanship, if a horse becomes ill or injured after checking into the AQHA World Show grounds and is deemed unable to show by the AQHA show veterinarian, an exhibitor has the option of showing a “substitute horse” for that class if approved by AQHA and after paying a substitution fee of no more than \$100.
23. Discuss Youth World Show state qualifying adjustment to all unfilled state slots to be used for other classes up to a maximum of six in any class (versus four) as recommended by Youth advisors.
24. For halter, appoint an overseer for individual judge’s placings.
25. If Youth World Champion graduates out because of age, then consider inviting reserve world champion to the following Youth World.
26. Offer an award to the first time halter exhibitor that places at the AQHA World Show.
27. Review qualifiers handbook previously sent to subcommittee members

VERSATILITY RANCH HORSE SUBCOMMITTEE

The following recommendations will be discussed:

1. Utilize the “70-point” scoring system to determine the placings in each class and the overall placings for the special event.
2. Add Versatility Ranch Horse World Championship to the AQHA World Championship Show.
3. Add a youth Versatility Ranch Horse World Show to the AQHYA World Championship show
4. Develop an all-inclusive set of rules that pertain to only Versatility Ranch Horse events and not refer to other class rules. ie: roping, reining, trail.
5. Review options in ranch cutting on required numbered cattle.
6. Change rule 478 (d)(1) – allow classes to be individually AQHA pointed.
7. Change rule 478 (h) – Open/Amateur competitors are allowed 1 numbered cow and 1 unnumbered cow to be worked within a 2-minute time. When a competitor looses the designated cow into the herd, that portion of the cow work is complete per cow.
8. Change working ranch horse rule – eliminate pattern 2 reining. Discuss replacement pattern.
9. Allow pleasure pattern signs to be permitted in the pleasure/trail combined class.
10. Clarify Working Ranch Horse rule for youth/novice amateur.
11. Add rule - Allow the use of “two rein” into the Versatility Ranch Horse class for one calendar year on any age horse that has not previously been shown down the fence in bridle.
12. No show rule may be changed or added by any entity between January 1 and December 31 of its effective year unless it directly effects human safety or animal welfare.
13. Revise Rule 443 (g) – (use of Mecate) to include Versatility Ranch Horse

14. Revise Rule 478 (e) (4) – **YOUTH** – For horses shown by exhibitors 18 years of age or younger (age as of January 1). The exhibitor must be the recorded owner of the horse shown or show a horse owned by his or her immediate family members. Exhibitor may show horses owned by a ranch where the exhibitor's family is a full-time employee (six months or more). **For the purpose of the Versatility ranch horse class, youth may ride as amateurs (follow amateur rules) and receive AQHA amateur points for qualifying for the versatility ranch horse world show. They may also ride in the youth division (following youth rules) at the same show.**
 15. Combine the scores of trail and ranch riding into one final score.
 16. Make it mandatory for judges to line up their conformation placings.
6. Consideration of other business.
 - (a) Presentation of leveling program.
 7. Election of Committee Chair
 8. Adjourn